



LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB  
First established 1943

**Mailing Address:**  
Lynn Valley Garden Club  
P.O. Box 16053  
1199 Lynn Valley Road  
North Vancouver, BC  
V7J 3S9  
<http://www.lynnvalleygardenclub.org>

**June 2012**

### **Meetings Schedule**

LVGC meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at St. Clement's Church.  
3400 Institute Road

**Please note that meetings start promptly at 7:15 pm.**

**June 21, 2012  
Camil Dumont  
Urban Food  
Production/  
Food Security**

**September 21, 2012  
TBA**

**October 18, 2012  
Larelle Oldford-Down  
Apples and Apple  
Tasting**

**November 15, 2012  
Steve Given of Given  
Waterworks  
Water Features**

**WANTED!**  
2 Members-at-large.  
Volunteer or nominations.  
No experience required.  
Lots of fun!  
Contact Bonnie Noakes  
for more information.

### **Message from the President**

For those of you who weren't at our May meeting, I wanted to let you know that our Plant Sale raised around \$3,800 in sales. In all aspects, it was a very successful sale. We had great weather, lots of wonderful plants, keen buyers and the proceeds will enable us to donate to many worthwhile groups and charities in our neighbourhood, pay for interesting guest speakers and fund trips and events for our club members. I think at our May meeting when I thanked so many people who participated in our sale, I forgot to thank the most important group of all, our Members at Large, who organized the sale and made it the success it was. Big "Thank You" to Cari Wineberg, Nancy Gelin, Chris Pharo and Rita Marshall – our Club thanks you all.

At our May meeting we also enjoyed presentations by our own Club members. Judy Lashley and Anne Frey gave a great hands on demo on making tufa pots, and Anne Pentland showed us how her vegetable garden was built. She has great photos documenting stages of building (she also used lots of re-cycled materials). Great presentations ladies. Many members told me how impressed they were with all, and inspired both to build pots and build vegetable gardens. Many thanks to you, again I note what a wealth of talent we have in our Club.

On a different note, we were all very saddened to hear of the passing of Art Speers at age 99, husband for 74 years of our special and honorary member Lillian Speers. Lillian was a founding member of our Club, and still regularly attends meetings. Our love, thoughts and prayers are with you Lillian.

Our Bus Trip was a lot of fun. Small glitch to start with when they sent a bus without luggage space – (what were they thinking – we are a garden club – we buy plants !) but a trade of buses en route solved that problem and we were on our way. We visited three nurseries and John and Gael Dodds Garden, and what a garden it is. Hard to describe how beautiful it is. An amazing variety of plants, curved beds, wonderful wandering paths, ponds, grottos and unique design - I think it is the most peaceful and tranquil garden I have ever been in. John and Gael were delightful hosts, we were indeed fortunate to be able to view this garden. By the time we got to our third nursery I was wondering about the cost of a trailer to put behind the bus to hold our purchases, but we packed them in ! The rain held off, and a good time was had by all.

Bright Spots. Please bring in plants to show us. Even if you bring in same plants every year (as I do with my favourites) there are always people present who have not seen them before. If you have something you want to show, but don't know the name, don't worry, somebody will be able to identify it. This was always a favourite thing I enjoyed about meetings when I first joined the Club, and we seemed to have so many plants shown, so lets try get this going again. Please take a stroll around your garden on meeting day and find some treasures to "Show and Tell".

We have our Members Garden Tour coming up July 14, then we don't meet again until September. Wishing you all many days of sunshine and flowers.

Happy Gardening

*Rosemarie Adams*



## 2012 Executive

### President

Rosemarie Adams

### Vice President

Pat Holmes

### Secretary

Bernie Robb

Norma Buckland

### Treasurer

Harvey Lawson

### Membership

Doreen Marbry

Diane Sekora

### Members at Large

Nancy Gelin

Cari Wineberg

Rita Marshall

Chris Pharo

### Newsletter Editor

Lynn Batt

[theleaf@lynnvalleygardenclub.org](mailto:theleaf@lynnvalleygardenclub.org)

### COMMITTEES

#### Plant Table

Christel Glazer

Marie Pringle

#### Hospitality

Doreen Wakefield

Pat Phillips

#### Bright Spots

vacant

#### Sunshine/Door Prizes

Carol Ferryman

#### Sound System Set-up

Maurice Jones

Hartwig Rother

#### Website

Brian Didier

### Next Executive Meeting:

**September 6, 2012**

### The Leaf Deadline:

**September 9, 2012**



### Treasurers Report

*Harvey Lawson*

Club funds are \$

Garden Sale revenue = \$

Expenses =

Profit = \$



### Tea Time

*Doreen Wakefield, Pat Phillips*

Please bring your own mug and remember the coffee we serve is decaffeinated.



### Sunshine

*Carol Ferryman*

Please let us know of any members who are ill or have lost a loved one.

**Donations of new items for door prizes are always appreciated.**



### Membership

*Doreen Marbry, Diane Sekora*

Our Club has reached a full membership of 125 members.

A big welcome to all our new members!

We now have 7 people on the waiting list.



### This Month's Speaker

*Pat Holmes*

Topic: Urban Food Production/ Food Security

Our speaker for June is Camil Dumont, a MSc student at UBC in ISLFS (Integrated Studies in Land and Food Systems). He is an urban farmer with Inner City Farms and his company has been interviewed by Sarika Suzuki on the Nature of Things Diary. To view this go to the Nature of Things urban farming and see the clip.



### Members at Large Report

Many thanks again to all who made our plant sale such a success! We seem to have broken the terrible weather curse as well---for now...

Our next event is the **Members' Gardens Tour**, being held this year on **Saturday, July 14**.

We'll meet in the church parking lot about 9:15-9:20 am, to arrange car pools and pick up maps and brochures, and leave at 9:30 am. There are six lovely gardens on the tour this year, from Deep Cove (where the tour will start) and Lynn Valley (where it will conclude). We'll be having lunch at the last garden, with coffee, tea and sweets provided by the club. Please bring your own lunchish items, and a folding chair if possible.

And remember, the weather couldn't possibly be worse than it was for last year's tour, which was still enthusiastically attended. So please come out and enjoy the beautiful open gardens.

**Your members at large—Cari, Chris, Nancy and Rita**

## **Important Notice – Proposed Amendment to LVGC By-Laws.**

**Part 8 - Section 6 (c)** of our present by-laws state "Any disbursements over one hundred (\$100.00) must have the authority of the membership. Authority shall be based on a motion by a two-thirds majority vote"

This means we have to go to a general meeting for approval each and every time we want to spend over \$100, which is not really realistic in today's market.

**"Part 14 - Amendments** of our by-laws state: "1. An amendment to this constitution and by-laws shall first be submitted to the society at a general meeting in writing and then laid upon the table to be voted upon at the next general meeting.

If two-thirds of the members then present vote in favour of the amendment, it shall be adopted."

In order for your executive to run the club efficiently and book interesting speakers, we often need to spend in excess of the \$100 limit – which was put in the original by-laws many years ago and is not really relevant today. Although many of our speakers do charge \$100 or less, there are occasionally speakers we would like to book, or other items we wish to purchase, which cost more than \$100. We would therefore like to increase this limit to \$300 to give the Executive more flexibility – i.e. we could miss out on a speaker if we have to wait for a general meeting to approve fees.

I assure you the Executive are not going to be going on a spending rampage with the Club's funds, this is purely to accommodate more efficient operation.

We will be discussing this at our June meeting, and hopefully can answer any questions/concerns you may have. If we get membership OK on this at the June meeting, we will be asking to pass resolution approving at next meeting, which will be September.

*Thanks - Rosemarie*

## **Perennial Container Gardening - Multicoloured Foliage Pots:**

Tropical Theme:

I grow Heuchera, (deep purple), Hosta, (variegated white and green) together in 12inch wide and 18 inch deep pots on my front deck (the same size I use for my herbs). I have part sun part shade on this deck so I get away with having a sun plant and shade plant together in a container growing at about the same speed. I do a little soil boosting every two years with soil amender and every five years change the pot. The plants come back year after year and always look great.

Santa Fe Styled Container - Perennial Pots:

I also grow on the sunny side of my front deck sempervivum montanum, common name hens and chicks in clay strawberry pots. These plants survive all sorts of neglect and weather conditions year round, and always look good. Every spring these plants have reproduced like crazy and the off spring become part of the Lynn Valley Garden Club plant sale. I also give planted up versions of this planting to my friends who don't look after plants but want a plant on their deck, (something they won't kill easily).

Grasses and Ceramic Pots

By my entrance way I have a variegated sedge and a solid green sedge in separate ceramic containers (12 inches across, 12 inches deep). I like the the way the grasses droop and hang over the pots and again they look good throughout the year. They are hardy and can take our coastal weather year round. (morning sun, otherwise in shade)

Woodland Themes

I have some very shady areas on my back deck and there I grow self seeded ferns (why argue with nature) in containers and they come back year after year. Don't ask me how many containers I have because I am in denial about the actual number.

The soil I use is general potting soil found in most garden stores.

No matter what your space there is always a little room for gardening.

*by Rita Marshall*

## **Vegetables: Can we garden year-round – Yes !**

As we desire to eat more locally, what would be more local than your own yard ? Harvesting some snips of ‘come again’ lettuce for dinner, along with fresh peas or beans, berries in the spring and tomatoes in late summer, squash in the fall – this is the *typical* garden season. Consider expanding those time boundaries – with minimal setup you can harvest from your garden year-round. Crops may be completely un-covered, or protected by a cloche (*definition below*), or settled in a greenhouse for the winter months, depending on your crop type. I have used the simplest method (no cover at all) with great success for both overwintering cabbage and cauliflower. Consider these differences (1) winter gardening refers to having plants full size before frost begins in November. Plants will grow slowly till mid-February and will not re-grow after harvesting. Some are dormant in the ground waiting for you to harvest, while others will continue to grow with some protection. (2) overwintering refers to plants which are not full size as winter begins, and will continue growing as spring days lengthen. These types do not require winter protection; examples are certain types of cauliflower and broccoli. Experiment with either winter gardening (protection) or overwintering (no protection) - rather than buying \$2 and more for a much-travelled head of lettuce during the winter, you could step into your yard and un-cover your cloche. Timing is key to planning your winter garden – you can grow your salad greens un-protected into November, then protect with a heavyweight cloche tunnel.

Cloche: Tunnel cloches are ideal for protecting rows of plants and can be made from plastic, fleece or flexible polythene sheet. The polythene and fleece tunnel cloches use a set of meta/PVC/plastic hoops which are inserted into the ground. The protective covering is then supported above the plants by the hoops. Clips are available to hold the covering onto the hoops

*by Judith Brook with reference material Westcoast Seeds*

**July 11 Wednesday Growing Food through a West Coast Winter** 7 - 8:30 p.m Discovery Room, John Braithwaite Community Centre, 145 1st Street West, North Vancouver. It’s the perfect time to plan next year’s winter garden! So save a little space in your garden, and join the expert farmer Gavin Wright to learn about growing hardy food in small urban spaces during the depths of our West Coast winter. Workshops are \$5.00 each. Call the Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre at 604.990.3755 to register. More info at [gardensmart.ca](http://gardensmart.ca).

## **Clematis**

The largest clematis aren’t really suitable for a city garden, but there are many clematis that are suitable for a small space, and are easy to care for. Several of the beautiful new introductions are suitable for growing in pots, provided the roots are kept cool and moist (eg. Ray Evison, Boulevard collection ‘Picardy’). There are also low growing clematis that like to trail over the pot (eg. Ray Evison, Flora collection ‘Bijou’). Glazed pottery is best, but plastic could be used as long as it is insulated with some Styrofoam board. Another strategy for placing clematis is placing them behind other shrubs, so their roots are kept cool and moist, but the leaves and flowers can climb the host plant and be in the sun. The host must be bigger and stronger than the clematis. (eg. *Acer palmatum atropurpureum* ‘Bloodgood’ hosting *C. viticella* ‘Mme. Julie Correvon’).

Pruning is not as complicated as it might seem because clematis are quite resilient.

All young (small pot) clematis need a severe pruning down to 12” of the ground the first spring after planting.

The early bloomers bloom only on old wood so if pruning, it should be done right after the flowers have finished.

The midseason bloomers bloom on old and new wood, so the pruning should be done in very early spring. Prune a few of the weaker stems down to a strong pair of leaf buds, and tidy up the rest. Midseason clematis also respond well to the late season pruning; delaying flowering until midsummer. (eg. *C. texensis* ‘Princess Diana’)

The late season bloomers are pruned hard in very early spring, some recommend the 12” ponytail haircut (grab and snip). I prefer to prune each stem down to a strong pair of leaf buds, because it looks tidier. (eg. *C. x durandii* )

Producing all of those lovely flowers requires nutrients; well-rotted compost can applied in late winter, but keep this mulch away from the stems. Tomato or rose food could be applied in late winter if you haven’t got compost.

“Clematis for Small Spaces” by Raymond Evison and “Growing Clematis” by Dr. John Howells are excellent books and are some of the sources for the ideas presented here.

*by Lynn Batt*

**Hydrangeas:** some new introductions for an old summer favourite.

Just a few of the new introductions: These all bloom on new growth, some on old growth as well; longer bloom time, more blooms. Many are small enough to keep in a pot (easier to change colour in a pot). This big change in hydrangea blooms started with Michael Dirr's chance discovery in 1998 of one plant blooming on new growth, then his introduction of "Endless Summer®" reblooming hydrangeas in 2004.

***Hydrangea arborescens* 'PIIHA-I' "Endless Summer® Bella Anna® Hydrangea"**

Dark pink blooms from summer all the way through fall, blooming on both the current season's growth as well as the previous year's growth. Bella Anna has strong stems to support the weight of those beautiful magenta-pink blooms. Do not prune in spring. Full sun to part shade. moist soil and height & width: 3.5' x 3.5'.



***Hydrangea involucrata* 'Wim Rutten' "Blue Bunny™ Bracted Hydrangea"**

Unusual plump downy flower buds open from midsummer until frost to an abundance of bluish or pinkish lacecap flowers. The large leaves are fuzzy and gray-green. Blue Bunny blooms on "new wood"—the current season's growth. Prune back in winter to encourage new growth, which produces flowers. Blue Bunny also doesn't require much maintenance other than a light trimming now and again. It does best in part shade with moist but well-drained soil. Height 3-6'

***Hydrangea macrophylla* 'RIE 06' "Double Delights™ Expression Hydrangea"**

Elegant pink to blue double waterlily-like florets. Young buds are lighter colours, giving a bicolor effect. Compact plants start blooming late spring and continue until frost blooming on both the current season's growth as well as the previous year's growth. Dense mopheads stay upright, a significant improvement over other rebloomers. Moist, well-drained, humus-rich soil and part-shade. Height 4"



***Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Horwack' "New Generation™ Pistachio Hydrangea"**

Multi coloured; blue, dark red, light green, and purple blooms. The first flowers bloom in late spring, on old growth, with a heavy repeat in early fall, on new growth (and lasting all season.). It has better disease resistance than older varieties. Wherever it is grown, it is well-branched and vigorous, with healthy toothed foliage of bright green. It has better resistance to disease than older varieties, and its stems do a much better job of holding up the heavy blooms. Best in part shade, moist, well-drained soil. Height 24-30" Spread up to 60"



***Hydrangea paniculata* 'Jane' "Little Lime™ Hardy Hydrangea"**

The same colors and benefits of the famous 'Limelight' hydrangea at one-third the size. Little Lime produces bright cone-shaped lime green flowers, later turning into pink, from midsummer to frost. Drought tolerant, and adapts to any soil or pH. Blooms on new wood, do not prune in summer. Sun to part-shade. Height and spread 3-5'.



***Hydrangea paniculata* 'Wim's Red' "Fire and Ice Panicle Hydrangea"**

Changes through three colors as it blooms. Enormous blooms start out creamy white, changing to a soft pink and finally to deep red blooms that keep the show going throughout the summer and fall. The extra large blooms are held on strong, red stems that cascade later in the season. It's upright habit and large cone-shaped flowers make it a dramatic addition to the garden. Blooms on new wood, do not prune in summer. Full sun to part shade. Height: 6-9'



***Hydrangea paniculata* 'Renhy' "Vanilla Strawberry™ Hydrangea"**

Changes through three colors as it blooms. Enormous blooms start out a creamy vanilla-white, changing to a soft pink and finally to a ripe strawberry-red. The unique red color lasts for three to four weeks. New blooms keep the multicolored show going throughout the summer and early fall. The extra large blooms are held on strong, red stems that cascade later in the season. It's upright habit and large cone-shaped flowers make it a dramatic addition to the garden. Blooms on new wood, do not prune in summer. Full sun to part-shade. Height: 6-7' spread: 4-5'.



How to change the colour: The colour is directly related to the aluminum absorption, controlled by the pH.  
More Pink – pH 6-6.2...our soil is naturally close to this pH, or add dolomite lime, or grow in a pot if your soil is aluminum rich.  
More Blue –pH 5.2-5.5...coffee grounds or other acidic material or (carefully to well-watered soil) aluminum sulfate (1Tbsp/Gal water) throughout the growing season.

Many hydrangeas do not need regular pruning other than to deadhead old blooms and remove dead branches. Hydrangeas do like frequent soil amending or, at least mulch the spent blooms and leave in place, because they are heavy feeders. To revitalize an (at least 5 years old), established *Hydrangea macrophylla*: Shortly after blooming, the buds are set for the following year's blooms. Prune one-third of the oldest stems to the base when the current year's blooms begin to fade, for three years

By Lynn Batt



**John and Gael Dodd's Garden**

*photos by Rosemarie Adams*

## Tools, Tips and Tomes

The Book of Kale...by Sharon Hanna

A local award-winning gardener and gardening writer, Sharon started this book as the 6 greatest vegetables for the westcoast garden, but kale was so far above and beyond all the others as easiest to grow (year-round) and most nutritious. This book also contains lots of recipes (best to ignore the smoothie recipe).

Westcoast Seeds Catalogue

Full of information about growing vegetables, including a month by month planting chart for coastal BC.

This catalogue is a must-have for food growers and is free at garden centres or get on the mailing list at [www.westcoastseeds.com/catalogue/](http://www.westcoastseeds.com/catalogue/)

### ABOUT TOWN

**June 24 Sunday Vancouver Rose Society Annual Rose Show and Rose Clinics** 12:30 – 4:30 pm Van Dusen Floral Hall Free Admission

**July 11 Wednesday Growing Food through a West Coast Winter** 7 - 8:30 p.m Discovery Room, John Braithwaite Community Centre, 145 1st Street West, North Vancouver. It's the perfect time to plan next year's winter garden! So save a little space in your garden, and join the expert farmer Gavin Wright to learn about growing hardy food in small urban spaces during the depths of our West Coast winter. Workshops are \$5.00 each. Call the Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre at 604.990.3755 to register. More info at [gardensmart.ca](http://gardensmart.ca).

**July 15 Sunday Vancouver Shade Garden Society Annual Show and Sale**, Floral Hall, Admin. Bldg., 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Admission is free. Information: Chris Jennings 604.602.6644 / [sikokianumcjl@shaw.ca](mailto:sikokianumcjl@shaw.ca)

**July 28 & 29 Saturday & Sunday BC Fuchsia & Begonia Society Annual Show & Competition**, Floral Hall & Cedar Room, Admin. Bldg., Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission \$2.50 Information: Catherine Whitford 604.924.3251 / [info@bcfuchsiasociety.com](mailto:info@bcfuchsiasociety.com)

**Aug 11 Saturday Vancouver Orchid Society Summer Sale**, Floral Hall, Admin. Bldg., 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Information: Koichi Nakatani 604.261.0023 / [knakatani247@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:knakatani247@yahoo.co.jp)

**August 11 Saturday GardenSmart - Backyard Composting: From Slime to Success** 10 - 11:30 a.m. Please join Catherine Dale for a hands-on opportunity to learn how to compost or to troubleshoot your own compost bin. Whether you're starting from scratch or with a slimy, smelly bin, we'll get you on the right track to trouble-free composting! This is a hands-on outdoor workshop – rain or shine. Please come dressed for the weather and bring garden gloves. Queen Mary Community Garden, bounded by West Keith Road, Mahon Avenue and 13th Street, North Vancouver Workshops are \$5.00 each. Call the Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre at 604.990.3755 to register. More info at [gardensmart.ca](http://gardensmart.ca).

**Aug 25 & 26 Saturday & Sunday Vancouver Dahlia Society Annual Dahlia Show**, Floral Hall & Cedar Room, Admin Bldg., Saturday: 1 - 5 p.m. Sunday: noon – 3:30 p.m. Admission by donation. Information: Evelyn Crawford 604.437.8395 / [evelyn.crawford@shaw.ca](mailto:evelyn.crawford@shaw.ca)

**September 15 Saturday Top Plant Performers for the West Coast Garden: Fall and Winter** | |, 10am-12pm | \$12 | Phoenix Perennials and Specialty Plants Ltd. 3380 No. 6 Road Richmond Instructor: Shelley Brignall

**September 15 & 16 Saturday & Sunday Pt. Grey Chrysanthemum Association Show of Early Varieties**, Floral Hall, Admin. Bldg., Saturday: noon - 4 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission free. Information: Gerald Pinton 604.943.0996 / [sgpinton@dccnet.com](mailto:sgpinton@dccnet.com)

**September 22 Saturday Jewels of the Spring Garden: Bulbs for Spring Containers** |, 10am-12pm | \$14 | Phoenix Perennials and Specialty Plants Ltd. 3380 No. 6 Road Richmond Instructor: Shelley Brignall

**September 29 Saturday Winter Containers to Die For: Plant Up a Container to Create Winter Interest** | |, 10am-12pm | \$14 | Phoenix Perennials and Specialty Plants Ltd. 3380 No. 6 Road Richmond Instructor: Shelley Brignall